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TAGS: [PREL](#) [PBTS](#) [EUN](#) [NATO](#) [OSCE](#) [MO](#) [GG](#) [RU](#) [TU](#)
SUBJECT: TURKEY AGREES WITH UNIFIED APPROACH TO
GEORGIA/MOLDOVA CONFLICTS

REF: STATE 190264

Classified By: Pol-Mil Counselor Carl Siebentritt for reasons 1.4 (B,D)

¶1. (C) Summary: Turkey agrees with a unified approach to the conflicts in Georgia and Moldova, strongly supports the sovereignty and territorial integrity of both countries, and sees no recourse except to encourage more dialogue with separatists in each case. The Turks are skeptical that a ministerial declaration can be agreed upon at the OSCE Ministerial in Brussels because of Russia's failure to fulfill its Istanbul Commitments. Turkey acknowledges that recent Russian actions have not helped, but is more concerned with what it regards as Georgia's "provocative" behavior towards Russia. End summary.

¶2. (C) We delivered reftel demarche to MFA Department of Arms Control, Disarmament, and OSCE Head of Section Ceylan Oskiper on November 27. Oskiper, who was a member of Turkey's OSCE Mission in Vienna 2003-2005 prior to assuming her current position in 2005, will join the Turkish delegation attending the December 4-5 OSCE Ministerial in Brussels. We provided talking points in paragraph 2 of reftel as a non-paper, which Oskiper shared with MFA Head of Department for the Caucasus Suleyman Gokce.

¶3. (C) The GOT agrees with the unified approach to both conflicts that we outlined, Oskiper told us, and strongly concurs with our points in support of sovereignty and territorial integrity for both Georgia and Moldova. Turkey supports efforts to continue dialogue with separatists in both countries, seeing no other path to success.

¶4. (C) Oskiper shared with us the November 23 working draft of the Brussels Ministerial Declaration. While appreciative of the Belgians' work on the paper, Oskiper told us she thought they were just going through the motions and was skeptical the Declaration would be agreed upon at the Ministerial. Because of Russia's failure to fulfill its Istanbul Commitments, she said, a Chairman's Statement likely would be the only result of the Ministerial.

¶5. (C) Turkey acknowledges that recent Russian actions, such as the GOR's hosting separatist leaders in Moscow and circulation of a paper at the UN referring to the breakaway states as republics, have not helped. Nevertheless, Oskiper told us, Turkey is more concerned by the "provocative"

rhetoric and actions taken by Georgia and has counseled
Tbilisi to exercise restraint.

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